

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) An arrangement for monitoring the status of and controlling the functions of aircraft cabin systems selected from a cabin information system, a cabin audio system, a cabin video system, a cabin lighting system, a cabin air conditioning system, a cabin smoke detector system, an aircraft door monitoring system, and a water supply and wastewater system, wherein:

said arrangement comprises a user interface panel comprising a liquid crystal display screen and a touch sensitive surface input arrangement superimposed at least partly over said display screen,

said user interface panel includes a basic layout including a general display area of said display screen and a plurality of touch input keys respectively labeled with system or function identifying symbols,

said arrangement further comprises a first system menu associated with a first one of said cabin systems and a second system menu associated with a second one of said cabin systems,

said first system menu can be selectively displayed on said general display area whereby said first system menu shows status information and operating functions of said first cabin system and allows a user to select and control said operating functions of said first cabin system via said touch sensitive surface input arrangement,

26 said second system menu can be selectively displayed
27 on said general display area whereby said second system
28 menu shows status information and operating functions of
29 said second cabin system and allows a user to select and
30 control said operating functions of said second cabin
31 system via said touch sensitive surface input arrangement,
32 and

33 said arrangement further comprises a main menu that
34 can be selectively displayed on said general display ~~area,~~
35 area instead of and excluding said system menus, and that
36 simultaneously depicts first and second essential
37 information informations respectively representing a first
38 system status about ~~at least~~ said first cabin system and
39 a second system status about said second cabin ~~systems,~~
40 system, and that allows the user to select a desired one of
41 said first and second system menus from said main menu.

1 2. (original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein
2 said touch input keys respectively comprise respective
3 touch input areas of said touch sensitive surface input
4 arrangement, and said system or function identifying
5 symbols are displayed on said display screen at locations
6 respectively in registration with said touch input areas of
7 said touch sensitive surface input arrangement.

1 3. (original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein
2 said touch input keys are permanent physical input keys

3 separate and distinct from said touch sensitive surface
4 input arrangement.

1 4. (original) The arrangement according to claim 1, further
2 comprising a computer connected to said user interface
3 panel, and software to be executed in said computer for
4 generating and displaying at least said first system menu
5 and said second system menu on said general display area,
6 and for evaluating and processing touch input signals from
7 said touch sensitive surface input arrangement to select
8 and control said operating functions of said first and
9 second cabin systems.

Claim 5 (canceled).

1 6. (original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein
2 said basic layout further includes a header line which
3 displays an identification of a respective active one of
4 said menus that is being displayed on said general display
5 area.

1 7. (original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein
2 said touch input keys of said basic layout are maintained
3 available and accessible to the user continuously and
4 regardless which of said menus is being displayed on said
5 general display area.

1 **8.** (original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein
2 said user interface panel comprises a versatile adaptable
3 touch sensitive screen that incorporates both said display
4 screen and said touch sensitive surface input arrangement.

1 **9.** (original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein
2 said first cabin system is said cabin audio system, said
3 first system menu is a cabin audio system menu, and said
4 cabin audio system menu includes display indicators and
5 input buttons for the user to monitor, select and play
6 pre-recorded announcements of said cabin audio system and
7 to monitor and adjust an on-board music channel of said
8 cabin audio system.

1 **10.** (original) The arrangement according to claim 9, wherein
2 said display indicators and said input buttons include a
3 numerical display field and an input keypad, which enable
4 the user to input a corresponding number to select a
5 desired one of the pre-recorded announcements.

1 **11.** (original) The arrangement according to claim 9, wherein
2 said display indicators and said input buttons allow all of
3 the pre-recorded announcements to be queued and played in
4 sequence.

1 **12.** (original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein
2 said first cabin system is said cabin lighting system, said
3 first system menu is a cabin lighting system menu, and said

4 cabin lighting system menu includes display indicators and
5 input buttons for the user to monitor, select and adjust
6 said cabin lighting system respectively individually for
7 various different areas in an aircraft cabin.

1 13. (original) The arrangement according to claim 12, wherein
2 said display indicators and input buttons provide three
3 selectable brightness levels of illumination by said cabin
4 lighting system in cabin entry zones in an aircraft cabin.

1 14. (original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein
2 said first cabin system is said aircraft door monitoring
3 system, said first system menu is a door monitoring system
4 menu, and said door monitoring system menu includes display
5 indicators that represent each door and hatch of the
6 aircraft and indicate a respective status thereof.

1 15. (original) The arrangement according to claim 1, further
2 comprising a status menu that can be selectively displayed
3 on said general display area, whereby said status menu
4 displays status information respectively regarding all of
5 said cabin systems.

1 16. (original) The arrangement according to claim 1, further
2 comprising a programming menu that can be selectively
3 displayed on said general display area, whereby said
4 programming menu includes display indicators and input

5 buttons to allow the user to program functions of a
6 plurality of said cabin systems.

1 17. (currently amended) A method of operating the arrangement
2 according to claim ~~[[57]]~~ 1, comprising the following steps
3 carried out by a user:

4 a) touching a respective one of said touch input keys
5 labeled with a respective one of said system
6 identifying symbols associated with a desired one of
7 said system menus or said main menu to call up and
8 display said desired one of said system menus or said
9 main menu on said general display area;

10 b) if said main menu is displayed on said general display
11 area, then touching a portion of said main menu
12 corresponding to a desired one of said system menus on
13 said touch sensitive surface input arrangement
14 superimposed over said general display area;

15 c) when said desired one of said system menus is
16 displayed on said general display area, touching a
17 portion of said desired one of said system menus
18 corresponding to a desired one of said operating
19 functions on said touch sensitive surface input
20 arrangement superimposed over said general display
21 area so as to select and adjust said desired one of
22 said operating functions of a desired one of said
23 cabin systems associated with said desired one of said
24 system menus.

1 **18.** (currently amended) An aircraft cabin systems controller
2 that enables a user to monitor status information and to
3 control functions of plural cabin systems in an aircraft
4 cabin, said cabin systems being selected from a group
5 consisting of a cabin information system, a cabin audio
6 system, a cabin video system, a cabin lighting system, a
7 cabin air conditioning system, a cabin smoke detector
8 system, an aircraft door monitoring system, and an aircraft
9 water system, wherein said aircraft cabin systems
10 controller comprises:

11 a user interface panel that includes a display screen
12 and a touch sensitive surface input arrangement
13 superimposed over at least a portion of said display
14 screen;

15 a computer-generated first system display that is
16 selectively displayed on said display screen, and that
17 shows first status information and first operating
18 functions of a first one of said cabin systems and allows
19 the user to select and control said first operating
20 functions by touching said touch sensitive surface input
21 arrangement superimposed on said first system display on
22 said display screen;

23 a computer-generated second system display that is
24 selectively displayed on said display screen, and that
25 shows second status information and second operating
26 functions of a second one of said cabin systems and allows
27 the user to select and control said second operating
28 functions by touching said touch sensitive surface input

29 arrangement superimposed on said second system display on
30 said display screen; and

31 a computer-generated main cabin status display that is
32 selectively displayed on said display screen instead of and
33 excluding said first and second system displays, and that
34 simultaneously shows first overview status information
35 regarding said first cabin system and second overview
36 status information regarding said second cabin system, and
37 that allows the user, by touching said touch sensitive
38 surface input arrangement superimposed on said main cabin
39 status display on said display screen, to select a desired
40 one of said first and second system displays to be
41 selectively displayed on said display screen.

1 19. (currently amended) The aircraft cabin systems controller
2 according to claim 18, wherein:

3 said controller further comprises a computer-generated
4 third system display that is selectively displayed on said
5 display screen, and that shows third status information and
6 third operating functions of a third one of said cabin
7 systems and allows the user to select and control said
8 third operating functions by touching said touch sensitive
9 surface input arrangement superimposed on said third system
10 display on said display screen; and

11 said main cabin status display further shows ~~[[said]]~~
12 third overview status information ~~further~~ regarding said
13 third cabin system simultaneously with said first and
14 second overview status informations, and further allows the

15 user to select said desired one of said system displays
16 among said first, second and third system displays.

1 20. (currently amended) The aircraft cabin systems controller
2 according to claim 19, wherein:

3 said controller further comprises a computer-generated
4 fourth system display that is selectively displayed on said
5 display screen, and that shows fourth status information
6 and fourth operating functions of a fourth one of said
7 cabin systems and allows the user to select and control
8 said fourth operating functions by touching said touch
9 sensitive surface input arrangement superimposed on said
10 fourth system display on said display screen; and

11 said main cabin status display further shows ~~[[said]]~~
12 fourth overview status information ~~further~~ regarding said
13 fourth cabin system simultaneously with said first, second
14 and third overview status informations, and further allows
15 the user to select said desired one of said system displays
16 among said first, second, third and fourth system displays.

1 21. (currently amended) The aircraft cabin systems controller
2 according to claim 18, wherein said main cabin status
3 display includes:

4 a first graphical aircraft symbol schematically
5 representing a plan view of the aircraft cabin, wherein
6 said first overview status information regarding said first
7 cabin system is displayed on and/or adjacent to said first
8 graphical aircraft symbol; and

9 a second graphical aircraft symbol schematically
10 representing a plan view of the aircraft cabin, wherein
11 said second overview status information regarding said
12 second cabin system is displayed on and/or adjacent to said
13 second graphical aircraft symbol.

1 22. (currently amended) The aircraft cabin systems controller
2 according to claim 21, wherein said touch sensitive surface
3 input arrangement includes:

4 a first touch sensitive area that is superimposed on
5 said first graphical aircraft symbol and is linked to said
6 first system display to allow the user to select said first
7 system display as said desired one of said system displays
8 by touching said first touch sensitive area; and

9 a second touch sensitive area that is superimposed on
10 said second graphical aircraft symbol and is linked to said
11 second system display to allow the user to select said
12 second system display as said desired one of said system
13 displays by touching said second touch sensitive
14 ~~[[area]]~~ area.

1 23. (previously presented) The aircraft cabin systems
2 controller according to claim 18, wherein said user
3 interface panel further includes plural touch buttons that
4 are respectively individually linked to respective ones of
5 said system displays to allow the user to select said
6 desired one of said system displays by touching a

7 respective one of said touch buttons that is linked to said
8 desired one of said system displays.

1 **24.** (previously presented) The aircraft cabin systems
2 controller according to claim 23, wherein all of said
3 plural touch buttons are always available on said user
4 interface panel when any one of said first system display,
5 said second system display, and said main cabin status
6 display is displayed on said display screen.

1 **25.** (previously presented) The aircraft cabin systems
2 controller according to claim 24, wherein said touch
3 buttons comprise respective system identifying symbols that
4 respectively identify respective ones of said system
5 displays and that are displayed on said display screen, and
6 respective touch sensitive areas of said touch sensitive
7 surface input arrangement respectively superimposed on said
8 system identifying symbols on said display screen.

1 **26.** (previously presented) The aircraft cabin systems
2 controller according to claim 24, wherein said touch
3 buttons respectively comprise permanent physical input keys
4 that are separate and distinct from said touch sensitive
5 surface input arrangement and that are incorporated into
6 said user interface panel.

1 **27.** (currently amended) An aircraft cabin systems controller
2 that enables a user to monitor status information and to

3 control functions of plural cabin systems in an aircraft
4 cabin, said cabin systems being selected from a cabin
5 information system, a cabin audio system, a cabin video
6 system, a cabin lighting system, a cabin air conditioning
7 system, a cabin smoke detector system, an aircraft door
8 monitoring system, and an aircraft water system, wherein
9 said aircraft cabin systems controller comprises:

10 a user interface panel that includes a display screen
11 and a touch sensitive surface input arrangement
12 superimposed over at least a portion of said display
13 screen;

14 a computer-generated first system display that is
15 selectively displayed on said display screen, and that
16 shows first status information and first operating
17 functions of a first one of said cabin systems and allows
18 the user to select and control said first operating
19 functions by touching said touch sensitive surface input
20 arrangement superimposed on said first system display on
21 said display screen;

22 a computer-generated second system display that is
23 selectively displayed on said display screen, and that
24 shows second status information and second operating
25 functions of a second one of said cabin systems and allows
26 the user to select and control said second operating
27 functions by touching said touch sensitive surface input
28 arrangement superimposed on said second system display on
29 said display screen; and

30 a computer-generated main cabin display that is
31 selectively displayed on said display screen instead of and
32 excluding said first and second system displays, and that
33 simultaneously includes first and second graphical aircraft
34 symbols each respectively schematically representing a plan
35 view of the aircraft cabin and respectively simultaneously
36 showing first overview status information regarding said
37 first cabin system on said first graphical aircraft symbol
38 and showing second overview status information regarding
39 said second cabin system on said second graphical aircraft
40 symbol, and that allows the user, by touching said touch
41 sensitive surface input arrangement superimposed on said
42 main cabin display on said display screen, to select a
43 desired one of said first and second system displays to be
44 selectively displayed on said display screen;

45 wherein:

46 said touch sensitive surface input arrangement
47 includes a first touch sensitive area that is superimposed
48 on said first graphical aircraft symbol and is linked to
49 said first system display to allow the user to select said
50 first system display as said desired one of said system
51 displays by touching said first touch sensitive area;

52 said touch sensitive surface input arrangement further
53 includes a second touch sensitive area that is superimposed
54 on said second graphical aircraft symbol and is linked to
55 said second system display to allow the user to select said
56 second system display as said desired one of said system
57 displays by touching said second touch sensitive area; and

58 said user interface panel further has incorporated
59 therein plural touch buttons that are respectively
60 individually linked to respective ones of said system
61 displays to allow the user additionally to select said
62 desired one of said system displays by touching a
63 respective one of said touch buttons that is linked to said
64 desired one of said system displays.

1 **28.** (previously presented) The aircraft cabin systems
2 controller according to claim 27, wherein all of said
3 plural touch buttons are always available on said user
4 interface panel when any one of said first system display,
5 said second system display, and said main cabin display is
6 displayed on said display screen.

1 **29.** (previously presented) The aircraft cabin systems
2 controller according to claim 28, wherein said touch
3 buttons comprise respective system identifying symbols that
4 respectively identify respective ones of said system
5 displays and that are displayed on said display screen, and
6 respective touch sensitive areas of said touch sensitive
7 surface input arrangement respectively superimposed on said
8 system identifying symbols on said display screen.

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